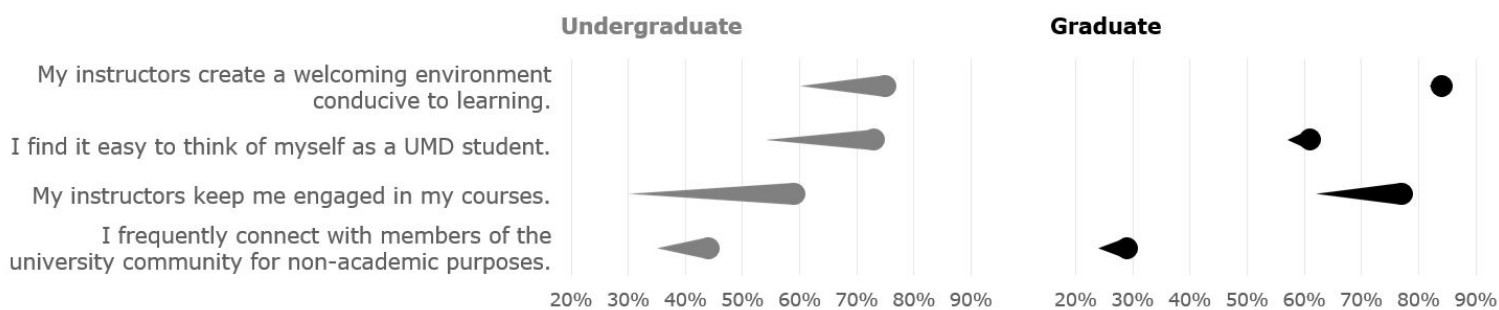


Lessons worth keeping: How are students feeling as COVID-19 continues to influence their UMD experience?

Students feel more engaged with UMD in Fall 2021 than in Fall 2020 both socially and academically.

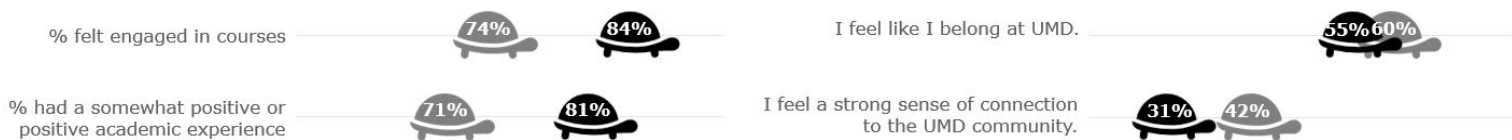
Compared to Fall 2020, students reported feeling more connected to campus and more engaged in their classes. This was especially true for undergraduates, where the proportion of students who agreed with these statements rose by 10 percentage points or more. With the return to in-person instruction, students also had more opportunities to get to know their classmates -- for example, 71% of undergraduates said they had adequate opportunities to interact with their peers in Fall 2021, a jump from 25% in Fall 2020.

More students agreed they felt engaged and connected to campus in Fall 2021 than in Fall 2020.



More **graduate students** had a positive and engaged academic experience in Fall 2021...

...but fewer felt connected to the UMD community compared to **undergraduates**.



Most students said they've developed resilience in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic and over half said they were doing well physically and mentally. This was the case for both undergraduates and graduate students.

85%

said they improved their ability to manage pandemic-related challenges since Spring 2020



67%

agreed they are doing well physically



55%

agreed they are doing well psychologically



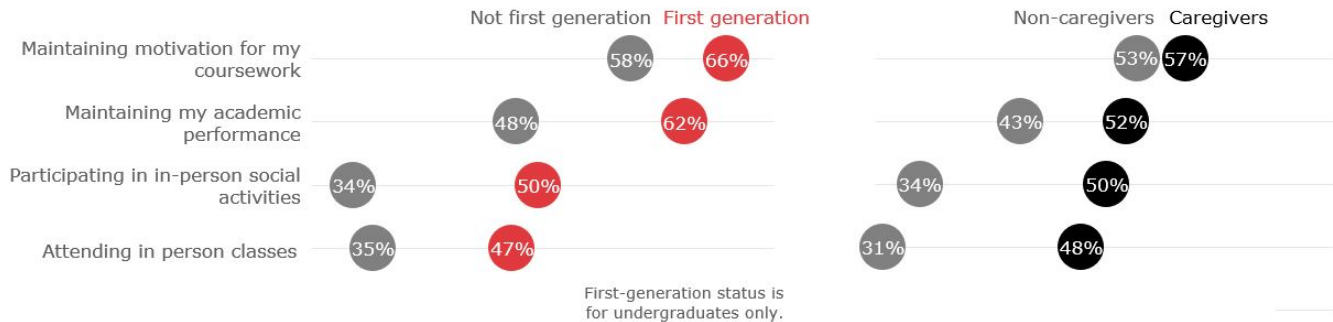
"It has been a challenge to go back to in person after being online for a year. I have had to rethink the way I study, and I am much busier so I need to be more on top of my work. I do enjoy being in person better though!"

- Undergraduate (representative of 219 comments)

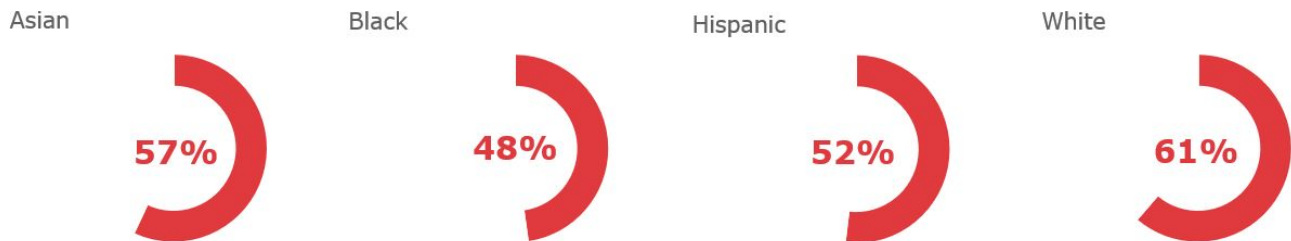
However, not all students feel equally engaged.

First generation college students and students with caregiving responsibilities reported struggling more with in-person engagement. Half of first-generation students and caregivers felt they belong at UMD, compared to 62% of their peers. Black/African American and Hispanic students reported feeling less connected to the UMD community, as well.

First generation college students and **caregivers** found it more difficult to participate in in-person activities than their peers.



Fewer **Black** and **Hispanic** students felt like they belong at UMD.



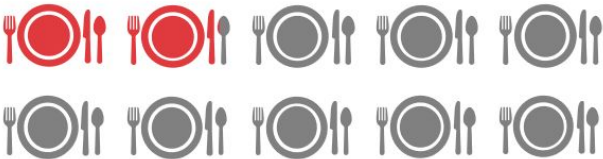
This includes domestic students only. Indigenous students are not shown above due to small cell sizes.

The pandemic continues to impact some students' access to basic needs.

Fewer respondents said the pandemic negatively impacted their mental and physical health in Fall 2021 compared to Fall 2020. However, similar percentages continue to report struggling with access to basic needs. Over 20% said COVID-19 impacted their access to mental health and medical care. 70 students said they were without housing at some point in the last year.

19% (410 students)

said the pandemic impacted their **access to food**



15% (330 students)

said it impacted their **access to housing**



Innovate for impact | What will you do in '22?

Survey administration and reporting conducted by teams within the Division of IT (Academic Technology Experience), Division of Student Affairs, Institutional Research, Planning, & Assessment, and the Teaching Learning Transformation Center



Want to learn more?
Read the full report at:
<https://provost.umd.edu/covid-survey-results>